

Appl. No. : 10/018,052
Filed : June 7, 2002

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-71 (Canceled)

Please add the following new Claims:

72. (New) A method for treating milk contained in a container having an inner wall, comprising the steps of:

setting a container holding milk in motion such that a milk film forms on an inner wall of the container,

short-term heating the milk at least whilst the container is in motion, wherein the container with milk is exposed for heating to a first heat source comprising a hot air source which is set at a first temperature, for a first period of time and then to a second heat source which is at a second temperature, for a second period of time, and

exposing the container to a cooling source which is set at a third temperature below both the first and second temperatures, for a third period of time.

73. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the second heat source comprises ambient air.

74. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the cooling source comprises a waterbath.

75. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the container in motion is immersed in an air stream of the hot air source.

76. (New) A method as in Claim 75, wherein the air stream is passed into a chamber with an opening for immersion of the container in motion.

77. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the third temperature is below 10°C.

78. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the first period of time is more than 15 seconds.

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79. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the second period of time is less than 15 seconds.

80. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the third period of time is more than 10 seconds.

81. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the container is set in rotation, at least during the heating, with a speed of rotation greater than about 150 rpm.

82. (New) A method as in Claim 81, wherein the speed of rotation is greater than about 300 rpm.

83. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the container comprises a glass flask.

84. (New) A method as in Claim 72, wherein the container has a volume which is at least about ten times larger than the volume of the milk.

85. (New) A method as in Claim 72, comprising the further step of monitoring the temperature of the milk.

86. (New) A device for treating milk contained in a container, comprising:
at least one heat source for heating a container holding milk wherein the heat source comprises an airbath,
a device for setting the container in motion and exposing the container in motion to the heat source for a defined period of time,
and a cooling source for cooling the milk.

87. (New) A device as in Claim 86, wherein the cooling source comprises a waterbath.

88. (New) A device as in Claim 86, wherein the container in motion is immersed by the device into an air stream of the airbath.

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89. (New) A device as in Claim 88, wherein the container immersed into the airbath is rotated by the device.

90. (New) A device as in Claim 88, wherein the airbath comprises a chamber having an opening for receiving the container and wherein the air stream is passed into the chamber.

91. (New) A device as in Claim 86, further comprising a temperature probe for monitoring a temperature of the milk.

92. (New) A device as in Claim 91, further comprising a receptacle for the container and wherein the temperature probe is fastened non-corotatingly to the receptacle.

93. (New) A device as in Claim 92, wherein the temperature probe is fastened resiliently to the receptacle.

94. (New) A device as in Claim 86, further comprising a receptacle for the container, said receptacle arranged for horizontal and vertical movement and having a rotary drive for said container.

95. (New) A device as in Claim 94, wherein the receptacle comprises a locking securement means for the container.